



# TOP OF THE HILL



MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

4001 HARDING ROAD, NASHVILLE, TN 37205

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## Camp Laney: The Big Red Boat Race

By Matthew Miller

The day was dark; clouds rolled over the mountain. Water trickled down the river as if whispering of things to come. It was time; lives were at risk. Cabin groups gathered around a burnt-out fire pit. Ashes swirled in the winds.

Then, a somber looking guide announced the challenge. Each cabin had to collaborate on building a boat using two sheets of cardboard, plastic wrap, a roll of duck-tape, and a single sharpie. They had only one hour to build a boat and then they would have to cross the river.

The clock started. Frantic campers dashed to the supplies, gathered all they could carry, and ran back to the cabins.

One hour of tedious work ensued. The camp was silent as if it was holding its breath. Then the campers marched out with their boats, high over their shoulders.

The teams checked out the competition. Cheers rang out such as "ASAP Kimball" or "U.S.S. Courage." Then the guide took them to the river. The water moved lazily, as if it were tired from having to move all the time.

The river looked to be almost half-a-football field wide. A nervous murmur was heard as the campers wondered if any team would be able to make it across and back again.

The guide announced the rules. It would be a relay race to see how many people could cross the river and back on their boats. The guide raised his arm and started the race.

Many of the boats sank the instant they were put in the water. Others sank when people got in them. Only three boats lasted the first 45 seconds. The first was a warship that carried one person. The second was a canoe that carried two people. The third was a pontoon with two sailors.

The canoe was the first to go back and forth and make it to land. But it sank.

The warship came across and back, but the other cabin members were so upset that they stomped on the boat and made it weak. Two more people got in and started rowing across.

The pontoon got two people across and back and safely ashore. But a hasty boarding by the next two sailors got water inside the boat. They both got out because the boat was sinking. They worked together to pour the water out and then another person got in and started rowing in the half-sunken boat.

As he made it to land, the warship sank, and the pontoon won the



*Chaos on the water during the boat race*

competition.

Later, everyone realized the seventh cabin who built the "ASAP Kimball" was the winner with three people making it across. The teams cheered for the winning cabin. It was a competition that would live in their memories as they headed back home.

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# CAMP LANEY

## Battle Ball

By Matthew Kaplan

Battle Ball is a part of Camp Laney that few forget. Every year has intense, clutch moments. This year had no shortage of spectacular, unique, and Sportscenter worthy finishes.

Battle Ball was played for about three hours on the first night, and one hour on the second. During the first night, after being divided by cabins, the two teams each won their fair share of games. However, each individual game proved that one team was better. On the first night, it seemed as though who ever was on Mr. Kimball's team would come out victorious. Mr. Kimball was such an obvious threat that his presence

may have done more than his actual performance. The other team's goal was always Mr. Kimball. A "Let's get Kimball" chant reinforced that desire. The other team would respond with focusing their emphasis on getting Coach Simpson, also a lethal threat in the game of battle ball.

Several factors went into the game other than what teacher you had on your team. Some of the best moments occurred when a team had few players left, and someone made a basket. Not only did the entire team come back in, but also the momentum shift was instant and apparent. I remember when many people on my team were out, including me, and we kept trying to convince those of us still in to shoot. Many found it too risky and didn't try. One of those people was Ned Freeland. After discontent on the

bench, Ned finally threw up a shot, and it went in. Everyone went crazy as we stormed back on to the court. Not only did we have more numbers, but also we had so much energy to get the job done. This same thing happened multiple times on both sides, and those were the real game changers. Many would agree that the most fun times in Battle Ball are the ones that give a team a chance to come from behind or win by little margin.



## The Excellent Elements at Camp Laney!



*David Roach*

remember that one moment when you jumped off the zipline and went flying through the trees or when you finally reached it to the top of the rock wall and looked down to see how far you had climbed.

The element that the seventh graders enjoyed the most was definitely the Kamikaze. You started The Kamikaze by climbing forty feet up a net, then walking across a swaying rope. At the end was a giant swing that swung you at least sixty feet high. Another highlight of the trip was the rock wall, which had many different courses that were varying in difficulty. The Camp Laney trip was definitely a good experience, not just to meet new people but to conquer your fears in a new environment.

By Aden Barton

The second day of Camp Laney was certainly the most grueling, but definitely paid off in the end. There were six elements, or ropes courses, that the seventh graders had to endure: The Zip Line, The Kamikaze, The Rock Wall, The Traverse, The Bonsai, and the Pamper Pole. All of the elements forced you to face your fear one way or another. Whether it was the giant swing in the Kamikaze, or the fifty-foot climb on the Pamper Pole, everyone at some time came up against a challenge

that he had to overcome. It was worth it in the end to



*Armaan Sodhi*



# CAMP LANEY



*Alex Kalams*



*The scene from the shore of the boat races*



*Logan Vick*



*John Sewell, Ike Cravens, Coleman Rutherford,  
and Sjeff Quaadvlieg*



*Aaron White*



# CAMP LANEY



*Nyles Robie and Will McEvoy*



*William Lummus and Camden Slinger*



*Left to Right: James Dennis, Sims Lance, Clay Overholt*



*Back : Marc Stanley and Jake Stumb  
Front: Robby Barnes, Spencer Grohovsky*



*Thomas Miller*



*Tripper Capps*





# ON THE HILL

## Microbe Chess Team Dominates

By Aden Barton

Seizing the 1st place spot at the Overbrook chess tournament, the MBA Junior School chess team looks as if they will have a promising year. Competing in the tournament were Alex Kalams, Julian Habermann, Atticus Glen, Aden Barton, and Tanuj Koli. Tanuj Koli and Aden Barton tied for first, and Tanuj qualified for the city championship. Currently, Tanuj Koli is the highest rated player of the team and hopes to seize a strong



standing individually in the state competition. Every other Tuesday the chess team meets at lunch and learns with Coach Andrews, who is one of the best chess coaches in the nation and is one of the best chess players in Tennessee. In past years MBA's chess team has done very well, finishing top in the state and vying for top ten in the nation. MBA is becoming more and more involved

in chess. Every year MBA proudly hosts an invitational chess class that is taught by world renowned chess masters. Looking forward, the chess team hopes to win first in state and shoot for top ten in the nation.



*Tanuj Koli, Aden Barton, and Alex Kalams*

*Top of the Hill meets on Tuesdays!*





# WELCOME

## ***New Faces in the Junior School***



*Mr. Eric Armstrong  
Introductory Physical Science*



*Mr. Dan A. Cooper  
Algebra I*



*Dr. Jonathan Creamer  
Introductory Physical Science*



*Mr. Matt Garvey  
U. S. History*



# TO THE HILL

## ***New Faces in the Junior School***



*Ms. Jennifer Haendel*  
*Junior School Office*



*Ms. Libby Greenberg*  
*Grammar/Vocabulary*



*Dr. Ric Rader*  
*Latin I*



*Mr. Michael Stewart*  
*Latin I*



# IMAGES ON THE HILL



*Harrison Hitt shows off his debate medal for best performance.*



*Eighth graders after the pep rally*



*Can you tell the eighth graders from the seventh graders?*



# IMAGES ON THE HILL



*Big Brother/Little Brother Tug-of-War*



*Jordan Turks*



*Big Brother/Little Brother Service Project*



*The Caver Brothers - Henry and Will*



*Photos Courtesy of Big Red Photos/Will Norton*



*Big Brother/Little Brother Half-time Fun!*



# ON THE HILL

## Homeroom Representatives 2014 - 2015

### EIGHTH GRADE

Mr. Anderson: Cole Turner, Jake Herbstreit, Jackson Hannah, Tye Herbstreit  
Mr. Brown: Luke Bernatavitz, Atticus Glen, Henry Hylbert, Andrew Sutphin  
Mr. Bullington: Blake Andrews, James Vest, Walker Conner, Carlos Soria-Garcia  
Mrs. Christeson: Sam Funk, Jack Rankin, Will Nahley, Gibby Gibson  
Ms. Ellery: Sam Dugan, Joel Elasy, Cole Crider, Chris Tarquinio  
Mr. Kimball: Ethan Way, T.J. Terrell, William Davis  
Mr. McMurray: Charlie Buffkin, Josiah Francis, William Petroni, Nikhil Peterson  
Mr. Russ: Doug Gaw, Otto Olafsson, Peyton Brien  
Mr. Simpson: Tillman Dean, Joseph Stevens, Blake Kirchenbauer, Reed Campbell  
Mr. Spiegel: Ross Johnson, William Stewart, Danny Lee, Braden Myers

### SEVENTH GRADE

Mr. Cooper: Jack Clarke, Aaron White, Jack Dyer, Jordan Turks  
Dr. Creamer: Matthew Kaplan, John Hyde, Aden Barton, Tanuj Koli  
Mr. Euverard: Wesley Hirschman, John Raulston Graham, Zach Brown, Jack Collins  
Mrs. Roberts: Quinn Trabue, Peter Hall, Jake Stumb, Brennan Minkoff  
Mr. Russell: Jack Larish, Will McEvoy, Tripper Capps, Samuel Kirkpatrick  
Mr. Sawyer: Landis Hall, Jacob Hanai, Woodson Weathersby, Brown Payne  
Mrs. Stewart: Walker Cain, Will Crawford/William Sullivan, William Roberts, Davis Blankenship  
Mr. Wims: Richard Cummins, Jack Smartt, Grayson Hill, Benjamin Sensing





# FEATURES

## Everything Ebola: The Virulent Virus

By Danny Lee

The Ebola virus disease (EVD), formerly known as Ebola hemorrhagic fever, is a very deadly disease that is currently spreading throughout the world. Even with all of today's medicines, EVD's fatality rate was around 90% but was reduced to 50%. As of right now, there is no cure/vaccine.

EVD causes an acute illness which is often fatal if not treated. EVD first appeared in 1976 in Nzara, Sudan, and in Yambuku, Democratic Republic of Congo, near the Ebola River, from which the name is derived. The current outbreak in West Africa was first noticed in March 2014, and is the largest and most complex Ebola outbreak since EVD was first discovered in 1976. There have been more cases and deaths in this outbreak than all the others combined. It has also spread between countries starting in Guinea and spreading to Sierra Leone, Senegal, and even to the US.

Ebola starts with wild animals, such as the fruit bats, chimps, gorillas, monkeys, antelope, and dead porcupines. Ebola spreads to people when the population comes into close contact with the blood, feces, organs, or other bodily



*The Ebola Virus*

fluids in the infected animal. That person spreads EVD to other people via direct contact, through broken skin or mucous membranes, with the blood feces, organs, or other bodily fluids of infected people, or with surfaces and materials contaminated with these fluids. One of the most common ways that people get Ebola is when they treat or bury someone who has Ebola, and since a lot of the treating is done by women, more women than men have the disease.

The time between getting infected and actually feeling the virus/symptoms is 2 to 21 days. Humans aren't infectious until they start feeling symptoms. The first symptoms the infected will feel is a sudden onset of fever, fatigue, muscle pain, headache, and sore throat. This is followed by vomiting, diarrhea, rash, symptoms of impaired kidney and liver function, and both internal and external bleeding. The way that Ebola actually kills a patient is through lowering the amount of blood-clotting cells, causing internal and external bleeding. Therefore, the patient bleeds to death.

Although there have been many recent Ebola scares, such as

the one in front of the Pentagon and the one in Mt. Juliet, there have been proven cases of Ebola from travellers that have recently been to West Africa and the nurses that treated the patients. To deal with the problem of people infected with Ebola running around, the UN decided that the 21-day quarantine wasn't long enough and elongated it to 35 days. When people are released

after the 21-day quarantine, they still have up to a 12 percent risk of having Ebola, while the 31-day quarantine reduces it to 5 percent.

Although there is no proven treatment available for EVD, rehydrating with oral or intravenous fluids, and treating specific symptoms improves survival. To try to find a cure to Ebola, a range of potential cures including blood products, immune therapies, and drug therapies are currently being evaluated. There are no licensed vaccines yet, but two potential vaccines are undergoing human safety testing. One of the most promising vaccines was created in Canada and was proven to be effective on monkeys with the virus. Researchers found and combined antibodies that corresponded to the proteins on the shell of the Ebola virus into a specific cocktail.

If you would like to donate to try to cure a very deadly disease, you can donate to the United States Fund for UNICEF at: [www.unicefusa.org/mission/survival/ebola](http://www.unicefusa.org/mission/survival/ebola).



# FEATURES

## Hong Kong Erupts: The Small Rebellion That Could Lead to a Brutal Revolution

By Matthew Kaplan

In 1997, the city of Hong Kong was transferred from the British empire to China. Having been a part of the British empire for several hundred years, it hasn't and still doesn't fit in with the rest of China. When Hong Kong was given to China, it was much more modern than the rest of the country, and therefore had much more contact in the outer world.

Hong Kong's politics are also very different. Hong Kong votes for its own leaders, while the rest of China's leaders are chosen by the current government. Hong Kong has grown used to this freedom to vote, even if it's unfair to the rest of China.

"Every revolution begins with a spark." That was the motto for the bestselling *Hunger Games*, by



Thousands of protesters show their support.

Susan Collins. All revolutions start small. Take Syria for an example, where the revolt started with minor



*Protesters are willing to sacrifice their happiness, their freedom, even their lives for a greater purpose.*

protests because of a few abducted teenagers. The rest is now history, as tens of thousands have already died in a war that doesn't seem to be coming to an end. In addition, several countries in Africa have followed the rest of the world in the effort for democracy. However, none of these revolutions started small. They all started with minor protests, and responses more violent than the last.

China has decided to lay down the law on Hong Kong. The law that was passed states that Hong Kong citizens may still vote for their local government; however, the government of China chooses the people who run for office. Although this plan might not seem like a huge problem, the people of Hong Kong are furious. What started in September with a few college students protesting, now has thousands of people on the

streets fighting for a freedom they've had for as long as they can remember. The protests have become more and more tense, as tear gas and many police officers try to get the protesters off the streets.

The point is not that World War Three is in the making in Hong Kong, but that after all disasters, we look at the signs that may have indicated why it all erupted. After World War

Two many looked back at events that didn't seem important at the time, but may have started a bloodbath of ten million plus. It is quite obvious that the signs are there. The stage is set for a catastrophe. It's as if we have the ability now to see that a volcano may erupt. The question is what will the world do about it? More importantly, what will China do about it?

The Chinese government is now faced with a big decision that could shape the country for a long time. Do they continue to fight the protesters and possibly cause a civil revolution? Do they give Hong Kong what they want, allowing the rest of China to see that protesting can get you anything? No one knows for sure which would be the better choice, if there is a good one, but everyone knows that the spotlight is now on the Chinese government that is faced with a problem no one knows how to solve.



# FEATURES

## Weird American Laws

(Someone committed these actions in order for the law to be passed.)

By Jonathan Brown



It is illegal to share your Netflix password (TN).

It is illegal to use a lasso to catch a fish (TN).

It is illegal to shoot a buffalo from the second story of a hotel (TX).

It is illegal to have a bear wrestling match (AL).

It is illegal to sell peanuts in Lee County on Wednesday after sundown (AL).

It is illegal to play dominoes on Sunday (AL).

It is illegal to have an ice cream cone in your back pocket (AL) .

It is illegal to drive down a one way street if there is a lantern attached to the front of your car (AL).

One can go to jail for ten years for stealing an alligator (LA).

It is illegal to gargle in public places (LA).

It is illegal to keep a donkey in a bathtub (GA).

All citizens have to own a rake in Acworth (GA).

It is illegal to give someone goldfish in order for them to play bingo (GA).

It is illegal to fish with a bow and arrow (KY).

One must pay the same parking fee for an elephant tied to a parking meter as a car (FL).

It is illegal to wear a fake moustache that causes laughter in church (AL).

It is illegal to drive blindfolded (AL).

It is illegal to make a false promise (LA).

It is illegal to ride a bike in a swimming pool (CA).

It is illegal to build a billboard (HI).



# FEATURES

## The Etiology of Some Common Idiomatic Phrases

By William Petroni

Have you ever wondered why we have traditions such as the bride carrying flowers at her wedding procession, or use certain phrases like, “It’s raining cats and dogs!”? Read more to find out! All of these phrases and things we still do today were developed in England in the 1500’s.

People usually got married in June because they all took their yearly bath in the month of May. They still smelled pretty bad, so the bride carried flowers to hide the odor. From that, the custom of carrying flowers when you get married was formed.

When people took their annual bath in May, they would fill a tub full of hot water. The man of the house got the clean water, the boys went next, the women and girls went after them, and finally the babies. By the time everybody was finished, the water was so dirty, you couldn’t tell if something was in it or not, hence the saying, “don’t throw the baby out with the bath water!”

People had piles of straw on top of their houses. There was no other place for the cats, dogs, and other small animals to get warm, so they would go up to the roof. When it rained, the roof would tend to get slippery, so the animals would fall off of the roof. So the saying, “It’s raining cats and dogs!” came to be.

Most people’s floor was made of dirt, except for the wealthy. So came the saying, “dirt poor.” Wealthy people had slate floors that got slippery during the winter, so they would cover it with thresh (straw). They would keep adding thresh to the doorway as the winter went on. When people entered, the thresh would slip, so they put a piece of wood on it which created the name, “threshold.”

Meat was something hard to come by in these times. When somebody obtained bacon, they would hang it up to show off to visitors as a sign of wealth. It showed a man could “bring home the bacon.” They would cut off pieces of the meat and sit around “chewing the fat.”

People started running out of places to bury people, so they would take old



coffins, take the bones out, and reuse them. They found that one in every twenty-five coffins had scratch marks in it. They figured that they were burying people alive. So, they changed the burial practices, and whenever they buried somebody, they attached a string to a hand, ran it through the coffin, and tied it to a bell. The person that had to sit out all night and listen for the sound of a bell had “the graveyard shift.” A person that was saved by this was “saved by the bell” or a “dead ringer.”





# FEATURES

*Serializing novels was a common practice in the 19th century and today. Stephen King's famous novel, The Green Mile was first published in a serialized format. This is the third year that the editors of the paper have decided to serialize a short story. This story will continue in each issue until its conclusion in our final issue in May. Enjoy!*

## The Man: 4-Part Serial

By Anonymous

### PART 1

October 1st, 2017. That was the first day I saw the man. At that time he was only a shadow to me, an eerie figure traveling through the mist. If I had known who he truly was, I would have done everything in my power to stay away from him.

But I did not.

I was curious, just as anyone might be, to know who the strange man on the street was. Even at a glance, it was clear that there was something amiss. He wore a tan overcoat and a dark hat. His face was shadowed. When he walked, it was as if he was being controlled by some unseen force—every step was taken at the same pace and directed in the same perfectly straight line.

On a misty and cool morning,



as I remember it, I was on my way to school (we lived just five blocks away) and I tripped over a baseball bat carelessly strewn upon the sidewalk. Stumbling, I bumped into a person coming around the corner and my backpack slid halfway off my shoulders. Regaining my balance, I turned and saw the man heading into the distance as if nothing had ever happened.

*Strange.*

*Unusual.*

*Bizarre.*

Then came the next incident.

Like most days, I sat down on a bench in the park to work on schoolwork and meet with David and the guys for a game of football.

And then I saw him.

He was in front of the water fountain, head tilted slightly and his right hand bent upwards as if taking a phone call. I couldn't hear what he was saying, but he wore the exact outfit and dark demeanor as the first time I laid eyes on him.

And just like that, the man was gone.

I blinked. Surely I missed him. He had simply gone behind the tree or hurried out of the park. Feeling frantic for some odd reason, I glanced around to see if anyone else was as confused as I. But nobody was around. Nobody had witnessed this strange phenomenon.

I shook my head, trying to clear my mind. It had been a trick of

the eye, nothing less. Still...

*Odd.*

*Nonsensical.*

*Unthinkable.*

And then came the third encounter. It was a hot, gloomy, damp night on the pier. I was absentmindedly throwing pebbles into the murky water when he appeared under a light just a few yards away.

"Who are you?" I finally asked.

He didn't answer.

"Why are you following me?"

Still nothing.

Who was he? I wondered. And why did he seem to show up everywhere I went?

I inched away slowly from the spot where the man stood, but in my fear I soon broke into a full-out run. Finally, I reached the city and went to sleep with troubled and confused thoughts swimming through my head.

A burst of sunlight entered my room, and I sat up in bed. My brother was in front of me, aghast.

"Danny!"

"What?" I grumbled, stretching.

"A man is at the door. And he has a gun."

Instantly, I ripped the sheets off my bed and ran through the hallway, then crouched at the door, looking through the window. It was him.

He'd come for me at last.

**PART 2 in the next issue!**



# FEATURES

## DR. LOVE RETURNS TO TAKE YOUR CALLS!

*Hey Dr. Love,*

*At my old school, the guys and girls always hung out separately on Friday nights. However, I have noticed that there are always a lot of girls hanging out with MBA guys during football games. If I wanted to, ya know, ask a girl to a game, how would I do that?*

*Thanks,  
Confused Seventh Grader*



*Kanayo Offodile is Dr. Love.*

Dear Confused Seventh Grader,

The smooth Dr. Love will help you get your girl with this advice. But before you are going to ask her to the game, you need to bring a pack of mints and dress appropriately like wearing khaki shorts, jeans, gym shorts, and an MBA shirt. So when the day comes to ask out your girl, you approach her and talk to her again for a little while. Then when you and the girl are alone, use some cool, subtle, and sweet words to charm her. When it is obvious that she is enjoying your time together, ask her out in a charming and tender way. With these rules, you can ask out any girls.

Sincerely, Dr. Love



*Jake Stumb and William Roberts spend the day with senior Austin Rolfe at the Big Brother/Little Brother service projects.*



# ENTERTAINMENT

## They Say That Nintendo is Dead but Nintendon't Care

By Matthew Miller

It is the time of year, the time when you start pestering your parents for a new game system. Most would put Nintendo at the bottom of your list. But guess what? You are about to get to the end of your power cord because Nintendo's new line of games will make you punch blocks to see if coins are inside.

It's not just me who thinks Nintendo still has game. At E3, a major gaming conference, Nintendo won for having the best presentation and games. In a survey of 240,000 people, 49% said that Nintendo



had basically beat Microsoft and Sony into the ground because of the popular franchises coming to WiiU. There will be major titles such as *Kirby and The Rainbow Curse*, *Yoshi's Woolly World*, *Mario Party 10*, *Bayonetta 2*, a new *Zelda Game* (title is not announced), and *Super Smash Brothers*. Newcomers to Nintendo include *Splatoon*, *Captain Toad*, *Treasure Tracker*, *Mario Maker*, and *Hyrule Warriors*.

Reviewers are most excited about *Splatoon*, a third-person shooter where two teams battle in a mega paintball war. It is one of the most creative games debuted at E3 this year. Players squirt ink to cover the map with their color.

Whoever covers the most territory wins the game.

The problem of the release of the WiiU was the name.

People thought that the gamepad was an accessory to the WiiU and didn't realize that it was a totally new system. Sales were rock bottom until their saving grace appeared... *Mario Kart 8*. After *Mario Kart* came out, people actually took the WiiU seriously.

Sales improved by 400%, and for a couple of weeks, Nintendo sold more systems than the PS4. With a new slew of games coming, the WiiU will be a success.

If you still think that



Nintendo is a loser, have you forgotten about a little thing called the 3DS? The 3DS is best selling game system in the US. It has sold 44.14 million units and the PS4 has only sold 10 million. What makes it so popular are its brands. Only Nintendo creates solid brands that you can instantly recognize such as *Mario*, *Kirby*, and *Pokémon*.

So as you can see, Nintendo is a lot better than you may think. Both the WiiU and the 3DS offer immersive game play, worlds to explore, and characters everyone loves.





# ENTERTAINMENT

## Subpar Summer Movie Sales

By Julian Habermann

This summer's box office sales were the worst in the US since 1997. A huge problem for the movies was all of the trite sequels at the theaters. The only movie that proved to make over 300 million dollars in domestic sales was *Guardians of the Galaxy*. It is hoped this poor summer will not affect the future of the movie industry.



22 *Jump Street* was one of the few movie hits of the summer.

As a whole, the summer made only 4.05 billion dollars, which is a 14.7% decrease in total sales from last year. A lot of movies did not make as much as predicted, such as *Edge of Tomorrow*. This movie had outstanding reviews, but the similar elements from older movies, such as big exoskeletons and a futuristic barren landscape, drove off movie viewers. While this movie spent over 250 million dollars



on production and marketing, it only received 99.9 million dollars in ticket sales. Other movies seemed bland like *Hercules*, which was advertised as an ancient action movie against monsters but actually was nothing of the sort. Also, there were a lot of similar R-rated comedies that lost their appeal.

Another problem was the large number of sequels in theaters. Only three sequels made more money than their series predecessors.

These movies, including 22 *Jump Street*, *Dawn of the Planet of the*

*Apes*, and *X-Men: Days of Future Past*, all had unique advertising that separated them from their predecessors. Other sequels were not so lucky. *Transformers: Age of Extinction*, *Planes: Fire and Rescue*, and *Amazing Spider-man 2* all did more than 25% worse in sales than their predecessors.

Compared to last summer's movies, this summer was awful. Last summer included some of the best sequels in a long time such as *Iron Man 3*, *Despicable Me 2*, *Fast and the Furious 6*, and *Monsters University*. These sequels were all unique and had great sales. Also last summer included great blockbusters like *World War Z* and *The Great Gatsby*.

Personally, I believe that the World Cup greatly affected summer sales. The US was for the first time actually interested in soccer. I'll bet a lot of people thought, "Why should I watch some dumb sequel if I could watch the US play Germany in soccer?" Even though some movies may be great, they do not always get the proper recognition that they deserve. Poor advertising for sequels and similar blockbusters may hurt future movies and definitely ruined my summer movie watching experience.



Tom Cruise's *Edge of Tomorrow* was one of the summer box office casualties.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## *Guardians of the Galaxy* Review

By Julian Habermann

When I went to see *Guardians of the Galaxy*, I expected a generic Marvel movie set in space, but I was in for a surprise. With a unique combination of humor and action, this movie stood out compared to the rest of the movies in the summer. *Guardians of the Galaxy* has already made over 300 million dollars in the US and ranks 32nd in overall domestic sales just under *Forrest Gump*.

In this movie, Peter Quill, an earthling played by Chris Pratt, is a humorous space thief who goes by the name Star Lord. Later in the story, he teams up with the unlikely team of a genetically modified raccoon voiced by Bradley Cooper and a walking tree named Groot, who has his one and only phrase, "I am Groot," repeated by Vin Diesel. Also, a female assassin, played by Zoe Saldana, and a revenge-driven warrior, played by the wrestler Dave Bautista, join their quest. When the dangerous tyrant Ronan the Accuser tries to destroy the universe with an infinitely powerful orb, the group rallies together in a last ditch effort to save everything.

The movie had an amazing cast who each played or voiced their characters beautifully. The



combination of humor and action provided a unique feel to the movie with witty one-liners and awe-inspiring CGI fight scenes. Peter Quill's favorite '70's songs provided a memorable soundtrack that popularized songs like most notably "Hooked on a Feeling," sung by Blue Swede, again. As I said before, the CGI in the movie was outstanding with Groot and Rocket Raccoon never looking out of place. Groot's one line, "I am Groot," is the first thing I think of when asked about the movie, and it is loved already by the media. Several allusions to other movies were made, including a hilarious speech by the protagonist talking about *Footloose*. The action in the movie was exciting and well-paced, and the movie had a perfect

mix of dialogue and action.

The movie still had its problems. The plot was lackluster and generic, and I could guess almost the whole plot from early on. The villain in the movie, Ronan, was purely evil and had no reason or backstory for his spite. Because all of the protagonist's problems were solved immediately, the movie lacked tension. Also there was a ton of plot convenience in the movie, and there was a lack of exposition for all characters.

Overall, *Guardians of the Galaxy* provided a different kind of Marvel movie with more humor, but still the action. In good and bad ways, there was less drama and background to save time for the rest of the

film. The movie is great for almost all ages and is a must-watch. I cannot wait to see this movie again and its future sequel, and I give *Guardians of the Galaxy* a 9 out of 10 stars.





# ENTERTAINMENT

## The Battle of the Smartphones

### The Stunning Samsung Galaxy S5

By Arthur Laffer



The Samsung Galaxy S5 and the iPhone 6 are the two biggest phone competitors on the market now. The Galaxy S5 has many superior characteristics, including the battery life, camera mega pixels, display screen quality, processor, RAM, graphics, connectivity, and design. This smartphone also has 2,800mAh and has a fantastic Ultra Power Saving mode which can last up to 12 ½ days on a single charge with all but the most vital functions shut down. It's also removable, so you can chuck a spare battery in there or replace a faulty unit.

The sensor for the camera is a 16-megapixel setup with 4K video capture capability. There's also a rather cool "Selective Focus" mode, that allows you to capture an image before selecting a focal point later. Other neat tricks include a 0.3 second capture speed and "HDR Live," which lets you see how HDR will change your image before you capture it. Samsung's display has enlarged ever-so-slightly from the Galaxy S4's 5-inch panel to 5.1-inches and has remained Super AMOLED with a full HD

1920x1080 pixel resolution. This enhancement should result in a pixel density of 430 pixels-per-inch for some sharp image quality, and Samsung's tech consistently delivers great color, brightness, and contrast. Samsung has opted for a Qualcomm Snapdragon 801 quad-core processor clocked at 2.5GHz, with 2GB of RAM and an updated Adreno 330 GPU. This upgrade is fast, but not the 64-bit leap forward some were expecting, nor is it a Snapdragon 805, Qualcomm's more fearsome chip which we've seen inside the Galaxy Note 4. The Galaxy S5 has a touch sensor and also has a heart-rate sensor on the back. You can use

Samsung's scanner with PayPal and Google Wallet for remote payments via NFC. The Galaxy S5 has a very rounded-off look on the whole phone. The back panel has a matte finish and a dimpled texture. There's also a cover on the micro USB port and a waterproof screen so it can't short circuit from water or dust. The Galaxy S5 has definitely topped the iPhone 6's traits, so if you ever would like to get a new phone, choose Samsung!

*Technical aspects of this article were referenced in the following: <http://www.knowyourmobile.com/apple/apple-iphone-6/21395/iphone-6-vs-samsung-galaxy-s5-which-best-you>*

**Exams Begin December 9 -- Be Ready!**



# ENTERTAINMENT

## Which Phone is Right for You????

### iPhone 6: Apple's Greatest Phone Yet!

By Jack Harrington



Currently, one of the most popular phones in the world, the iPhone 6, has a very large competitor, the Samsung Galaxy S5. Many Samsung fans have claimed that the S5 is better, but there are many reasons that the iPhone 6 is much better than all other phones on the market. First, the iPhone 6 is much skinnier and lighter. The iPhone 6 is also leading the market with its screen quality. This smartphone uses an industry-leading new IPS LED screen, while the S5 uses the 5-year-old AMOLED screen technology. The iPhone's screen has a wider viewing angle and much more vibrant colors. The iPhone 6's camera is also quite superior. While the S5 has more megapixels, the iPhone 6 has phase detection, a much smaller sensor, and pixel focus, allowing faster focus times. Also, Apple's support is higher-ranking than Samsung's. The iPhone 6 leads the pack in mobile security. Apple has a much better fingerprint scanner than Samsung's,

along with other features such as Find my iPhone and the ability to wipe your phone remotely if it gets stolen. Apple brought fingerprint scanning to the phone market, and currently, they are also leading in that area. As far as speakers go, both have an internal downward-facing speaker, capable of producing up to 78 decibels. Apple is also always emphasizing the importance of being green and using recyclable or recycled materials in their phones, while Samsung has not even produced a plan to do so. When it comes to processing power, the iPhone 6 is far superior. Using a 64-bit technology, it is much better for both speed and gaming. Both the iPhone 6's and S5's highest models ship with 128 GB of storage, so they're tied there.

The iPhone 6's operating system is much easier to use, and Apple's app store is much larger. The Apple store contains 1.2 million apps, and the Google Play store is

nearing 1 million. The iPhone 6 beats the S5 in battery life as well, with a standby life of up to 16 days and an active life of up to 24 hours. Another feature that tops the S5 is Apple's payment system, known as Apple Pay. Apple Pay is accepted in many nationwide stores, including Whole Foods, Walgreens, and more. In comparison, Samsung doesn't even have a specified payment system, and you must download a third party app that cannot always be trusted. Apple is also headquartered in the USA, meaning that it's something for our country to be proud of, while Samsung is based in Japan.

Consequently, the iPhone 6 is owned by the majority of smartphone-owning people in the US. Not only does Apple have a much bigger community of users and buyers, the iPhone 6 is also abundant with features and functionality that the Samsung Galaxy S5 simply doesn't have.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## Madden 15 Review

By William Petroni

It's *Madden* Season! From the exciting and rather odd commercial featuring Kevin Hart and other superstars, this franchise's annual installment is a refreshing and new game. *Madden* has often been criticized for being a boring and repetitive game, but this year's game proves that theory wrong. In recent *Maddens*, defense had always been a part of the game I didn't like. Other than calling the



he puts on to get to the quarterback. Releasing too early could give a penalty, while releasing too late diminishes your chance of getting a sack or getting to the running back behind the line of scrimmage. Also, defense is easier overall.

Last year, especially when playing online, I found holding the



Kevin Hart in an ad for *Madden 15*

plays, I felt as if I had close to no involvement in the play and just found myself controlling a lineman every time, doing close to nothing every snap. Now, with the new player lock feature, you get the view of the player you choose to control on the defensive side of the ball. When you control a lineman, you control his release and the pass rush moves

offense very difficult. You will now get different play call suggestions depending on the situation you're in. The gameplay physics have

also been improved. Receivers don't have eyes in the back of their head. Defensive backs now read plays better than before and will bait you into throwing to an open receiver only to be picked off (like real life). These are just some of the improvements that add to the realism of the game. Although the physics of the game has improved,

the commentating has not. It is stale and often repeats the same phrases a couple times a game.

On the next generation consoles (Ps4, Xbox One), the graphics have been greatly improved. Being a fan favorite for a couple years now, Ultimate Team makes its return. Ultimate Team is game mode where you start with a bunch of benchwarmers and work your way up to a team of superstars. You can obtain players via auction, trading, or packs. You buy players using coins, which you can obtain through solo challenges, playing online, or selling players. Although this game mode is VERY fun and addicting, it will take you hundreds of hours to stack your team full of superstars without eventually having to use real money to speed things up. Connected Franchise mode has also been improved, adding confidence as a new attribute to a player. Something that I was very disappointed in was that the My Player mode is in Connected Franchise. It is essentially a copy and paste from last year. I thought they would try to make it like *2k Basketball*, where you would be interviewed, have a reputation, and have a back-story. I was very disappointed by that detail.

Overall, I would say the *Madden* franchise has taken a definite step in the right direction with more realistic gameplay, improved defense, and improved game modes. So, despite the stale commentary and no changes in My Player mode, I give *Madden 15* an 8/10.

# SPORTS



## Number 2

By John Raulston Graham

"The perfect script," said AP writer Mike Fitzpatrick when talking about Derek Jeter's last game in Yankee Stadium. Jeter, who was 3-5, had 3 RBI, hit a double off the wall which scored two runs, and a game winning, walk-off single. It was the

perfect culmination of the captain's career in his 20 seasons. How did he get here? Jeter was taken 6th overall in the 1992 MLB Draft straight out of Kalamazoo Central High School in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he lived for the majority of his childhood. The forty-year-old shortstop who played all 20 of his seasons with the Yankees had a batting average of .310, 3,456 hits, 1,311



*Derek Jeter tips his hat to the crowd in his final game at Yankee Stadium.*

RBI, and 260 home runs. He also won numerous awards including 14 All-Star appearances, 5 World Series championships, World Series MVP, 5 Gold Glove Awards, and 5 Silver Slugger Awards. As captain of the Yankees for 12 years, he earned the nicknames "Captain Clutch" and "Mr. November" for his outstanding play in the postseason. He has a .309 batting average in the postseason and holds MLB postseason records in games played (158), plate appearances (734), hits (200), singles (143), doubles (32), triples (5), runs scored (111), and total bases (302). After this career, I believe in 2020 we will hear Derek Jeter's name called once more in Cooperstown.

## Soccer: The Rise of MLS Popularity

By Camden Slinger

Major League Soccer is becoming more popular, and I think in one generation soccer will be at the top of the sports pyramid. Soccer is growing more popular because kids play it, and there is at least one soccer player in 30% of American households. MLS has also become more popular after the last FIFA World Cup. Many



people watched this year's World Cup, which caused more of them to become interested in the MLS. Social media and the Internet have made soccer more popular because of sports news pages and people taking pictures at soccer games. With all of the gaming consoles out, television has been showing many commercials for *FIFA 15*, Xbox, and PlayStation. There are also a lot of

soccer leagues throughout the state of Tennessee and other states. I know many people who play in soccer leagues outside of school, and they really enjoy it. For the people who watch sports on the television, soccer does not have commercial breaks, so you don't have to flip the channel only to find when you come back that someone has already scored. I think it is also a very fun sport to watch because of the ball transition and watching the players show off their awesome moves.

By the time of the next FIFA World Cup, the popularity of soccer will have increased in America.



# SPORTS

## College Football Playoffs

By William Stewart

This year in college football, there will be a college football playoff replacing the old BCS system. The playoffs consist of the top four teams selected by a selection committee based on strength of schedule, head-to-head results, comparison of results against common opponents, championships won, and other factors. The previous BCS bowl game sites will rotate out as the locations for the semi-final games each year. The non BCS bowl games will not be affected by the new playoff system.

Some people question the switch because the BCS system was not necessarily broken. However, the main reason for the switch to the playoffs was to allow more teams to play for the national championship with less debate. Previously, in order to play for the BCS National Championship, the team had to be ranked in the top two in the BCS rankings, which meant possible championship teams were left out of the national championship game. Instead of debating which team should make the national championship game, the college football playoffs allow these teams to play into the championship. This



**COLLEGE FOOTBALL  
PLAYOFF**

undefeated football teams in not as powerful conferences a chance to prove they belong.

The selection committee decides who will participate in the playoffs and the New Year's bowls, a system that is similar to last year's BCS bowl selection process. Their job is to create competitive matchups, avoid repeat appearances, and avoid rematch games between familiar opponents. The committee is mostly elected by their experience as coaches, collegiate football players, and current athletic directors. They are to select worthy FBS teams, and there are no teams that will automatically qualify.

As the college football season continues, the race for the championship remains up for grabs. Three of the four teams that ranked in the preseason top four have now been eliminated from the top four. The SEC West alone has four teams ranked in the top five spots in the AP rankings. However, many SEC West showdowns are yet to come. Who will make the college playoff this season?

new system gives the opportunity for major conferences such as the SEC a chance to prove their dominance, and it also gives

My predictions:

1. **Ole Miss**- The Ole Miss defense, known as the "landsharks," will shut down their opponents, and there will be a showdown with #1 Mississippi State in the Egg Bowl.

2. **Florida State**- Despite showing signs of struggling, their win over Notre Dame showed they will have no problem winning without Jameis Winston in the shaky ACC.

3. **Alabama**- Alabama is a historically impenetrable fortress which is the reason why Alabama will beat Auburn in the Iron Bowl.

4. **Oregon**- This number four spot is wide open; however, Oregon, led by Marcus Mariota who is a favorite in the Heisman race (see Heisman watch), is the most likely team to win and to finish with only one loss to a talented Arizona team.



# SPORTS

## NCAA Heisman Race

By Joel Elasy



As the college football season is heating up, so is the Heisman race. The top five candidates as of now are (1) Dak Prescott, (2) Marcus Mariota, (3) Melvin Gordon, (4) Everett Golson, and (5) Todd Gurley. Dak Prescott has had a sensational season with 1478 passing yards and 14 touchdowns. Dak has led the Mississippi State Bulldogs to a breakout year, and the Bulldogs are now ranked number one in the

nation. The Heisman race had a major shake-up when Todd Gurley, who was previously the leader of the Heisman race, was suspended for the selling of signed memorabilia. Gurley was looking like the obvious pick to win the Heisman. He was leading Georgia in rushing and was dominating some of the top defenses in the nation. Todd Gurley is currently suspended indefinitely for his violation of NCAA policy. As of now, Dak Prescott is the most deserving of the trophy. He is leading Mississippi State to unprecedented success, and his statistics are among the best in the nation. There are also other players not in the top five that very well could be by the end

of the season. For example, Amari Cooper, an Alabama wide receiver, is having a breakout season, and if he continues to play well, he could be the first wide receiver to win the Heisman since Desmond Howard of Michigan in 1991.

While we are only halfway finished with the season, the Heisman race is already heating up, and every week seems to make it harder to predict.



*Jameis Winston*

## SEC COLLEGE FOOTBALL TRIVIA

By Joel Elasy

1. WHO WAS THE WINNER OF THE HEISMAN TROPHY LAST YEAR?
2. WHICH TWO TEAMS PLAYED FOR THE SEC CHAMPIONSHIP LAST YEAR?
3. WHICH TWO TEAMS JOINED THE SEC TWO YEARS AGO?
4. WHAT SEC FOOTBALL TEAM DID NICK SABAN COACH BEFORE ALABAMA?
5. WHO IS THE WINNINGEST COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAM OF ALL TIME?
6. IN 2012, WHICH TWO SEC TEAMS PLAYED IN THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP?





# SPORTS

## Hit and Run

By Jackson Lyell

On February 15, Ray Rice and his current wife, Janay Palmer, were involved in a fight in an Atlantic City, New Jersey elevator. This scandal will change sports forever.

The country was not aware of the crime until about seven months after the event when TMZ sports released the video of Rice punching Janay in the elevator. Before TMZ posted the video, Roger Goodell, the NFL Commissioner, suspended Rice for two games. Many fans disagreed with the decision and believed the punishment was not severe enough for the crime. A few weeks later after TMZ released the full video in the elevator, Roger Goodell told the media that his decision was wrong, and he "hadn't seen the entire video to make the correct decision." He then suspended Rice from the NFL



*Janay Palmer and Ray Rice*

indefinitely, and shortly after, Rice was released from the Ravens.

After Goodell's decision to suspend Rice, Ray told the media that he and his wife are much better off now, considering everything they had been through. Although Ray Rice punched his fiancée, he still married her a month later. This scandal has changed the issue of domestic violence in many different ways. People no longer look at sports in the same way because of how Roger Goodell handled the case. Goodell and the Ravens knew

about the fight six months before it was released by TMZ. People were even wondering why Goodell had not lost his job.

Ray Rice's punishment was an important decision. This decision not only was just, but also sent a message to all other athletes and people that there is no place in this world for domestic violence, not without a consequence, and players will be thinking twice before committing heinous crimes like domestic violence since they could lose their jobs.



*Images from the elevator camera revealing an unconscious Janay Palmer.*

## Fantasy Football

By Jackson Singer

Fantasy football is one of the most famous online sports in the nation. People all over America want to play fantasy football. It is so popular that there is a show all about fantasy football called *The League*. People are wondering who will be the best players will be.



Well, right now the quarterback that leads fantasy is Andrew Luck for the Indianapolis Colts. He is totaling 123 points through six games. The best running back is DeMarco Murray for the Dallas Cowboys

with a total of 96 points through six games. Totaling 81 points through six games, the best wide receiver is Antonio Brown for the Pittsburgh Steelers. The best tight

end is Julius Thomas for the Denver Broncos. He has a total of 62 points through six games. The top defense is the Philadelphia Eagles with 60 points at present. Finally, the top kicker with 57 points in the NFL is Stephen Gostkowski. Even though the Manning brothers are having a bumpy season, I think they will have a spark in the late part of the season. I personally believe that Demarco Murray will have a very successful season, and he will pick up a plethora of points. Fantasy Football is very unpredictable, and anything can change in a week.

# BIG RED SPORTS

## 7th Grade Football

The 52 members of the 2014 MBA 7th Grade football team began preparation for their season as summer came to a close. The boys spent the dog days of August getting to know each other and the coaching staff. The season began with a visit from the West Nashville Broncos. With three touchdowns from fullback Ike Cravens, the Big Red pulled out a 25-20 victory.

The team travelled to Mt. Juliet for its second contest of the year. An untimely penalty wiped out a long touchdown run by Spencer Grohovsky, and the Big Red found itself trailing 6-0 at the half. The team took the lead at the start of the second half, but was unable to hold on as the Bears claimed at 18-7

win.

The boys returned home for the team's third game against Lipscomb Academy. Cole Carr helped secure a 21-18 win for the Big Red with two touchdowns from the tailback positions and physical play on the offensive and defensive lines.

The team was split in half for the annual Cardinal/Silver scrimmage. The game provided an opportunity for everyone on the roster to gain valuable playing time. The showdown proved to be a true defensive struggle, with the Silver team finally prevailing 2-0.

The offensive drought continued in the team's next game against the Brentwood Blaze. Despite moving the ball well between the 20-yard lines, the Big Red was never able to reach pay dirt. The defense was outstanding, keeping the Blaze in check the

entire game. A crushing interception return for a touchdown proved to be the difference as the Big Red fell 6-2.

There was not much time to dwell on the loss to the Blaze, because Knoxville Farragut arrived at Tommy Owen stadium two days later. Despite the absence of several key players, the team put forth a tremendous effort in a 21-7 loss to a team of 7th and 8th graders.

The team closed out the season with a trip down Granny White Pike to take on rival Brentwood Academy. Trailing late in the game, the offense put together the best drive of the season. Quarterback William Tyrone led the hurry-up down the field, connecting with receiver Woodson Weathersby in the end zone for a late touchdown. While unable to pull out the win, the drive was a great example of the team's competitive spirit.



*The 2014 Seventh-Grade Football Team*



# BIG RED SPORTS

## 8th Grade Football 2014

By Jack Rankin

This year the eighth grade team enjoyed a season of growth as players and as brothers. Throughout the season our team experienced several hardships. First, we were being introduced to a new system that we will use throughout our high school years. Secondly, we were riddled with injuries. These unavoidable factors left us with a 4-3 finish, which is not necessarily what others or we expect from this team. We know there are no excuses for a bad season, but even more



improvements and growth were gained from our losses than our victories. We learned to play together as a team and not rely on certain players to lead us. This bond was strengthened through events such as our time together down at Baylor (trying new things), our inner-squad competitions, and our common love

for Doug's tank tops. Whether funny or serious, this team grew together and established friendships that will last our lifetimes. For this, we thank Coach McMurray, McMahan, Lampley, and Bernatavitz for their persistence in teaching us this game and the lessons we will keep with us forever.



*The 2014 Eighth-Grade Football Team*

# BIG RED SPORTS

## Microbe A Golf Team

By Adric Kimbrough

MBA's Microbe A Team had a wonderful season this year. Even though the team lost its first two matches of the season, they picked up the pace and started to win matches. The team consisted of 7th graders John Sewell, Matthew Hawkins, and Eric Saul, and 8th graders Marshall Summar, Webb Hunt, Sam Funk, William Davis, Jackson Singer, Jack Harrington, Walker Connor, and Adric Kimbrough. Coach Kelly coached the team well and taught the boys life lessons that would help them through their entire lives.

Adric Kimbrough, John Sewell, Jackson Singer, and Sam



*The 2014 Microbe A Golf Team*

Funk represented MBA in the 2014 HVAC Championship. The team expected to win by a landslide; however, they placed fourth. Sam Funk shot a 37 and earned 5th. John Sewell and Jackson Singer shot a 39. Adric Kimbrough shot a 40. The team appreciates all the

spectators that came to watch and support the team.

In the spring, the Microbe A Team will be working to improve as a team for there will be spring golf for the microbe team this year. This team is associated with the TNJGA, which means the season will be more competitive.

If you are interested in golf, practice during the fall and winter to improve your game, and you can be on the golf team. All it takes is practice, motivation, and hard work. This is AdrictheGolfer, and I approve this message. Go Golfers!

## B Team Golf

By Cameron Jacobson

This year in B-team golf, our team consisted of Chris Tarquinio, Daniel Skaff, Dudley Harmer, and Cameron Jacobson. Our season had a slow start with our players not playing to the best of their abilities. Over the next couple of weeks with our matches being rained out, we began to play more as a team, and we became much better. This growth showed over the next couple of matches as our scores improved greatly. Every



match we played was at Harpeth Valley Golf Course, and we played other schools like Ensworth, USN, and Harding. As our season came closer

to an end, we were able to have much more fun during our matches because we were playing better. On our last match day we had an inner

squad competition, with the team of Dudley and Cameron and the team of Chris and Daniel. The competition was close, but Daniel and Chris won by one stroke. Overall this year in B-team golf, with the help of Coach Kelly, we were very successful and as a result, we played much better as a team.





# BIG RED SPORTS

## Microbe Tennis

By Campbell Cook

The Junior School tennis team finished their season strong with a big win over McCallie after many close matches. This win clinched the first undefeated microbe tennis season in at least 3 years. This win was the largest win margin against McCallie in the last 5 years. We had strong performances throughout the season from Hugh Graham, Baylor Sai, Richard Cummins, Gibby



Gibson, Sims Lance, Will Nahley, John Wallace, Reed Campbell, Brian Graves, Nikhil Peterson, Ben Wood, Michael Nelson, and John Thornton. We also had a strong coaching staff consisting of Coach Boyd (head coach), Coach Trotter (assistant coach), Ms. Ellery (match coordinator), Jake Johnston (manager), and Campbell

Cook (manager). In our first three matches, we only lost one matchup. We won against Christian Academy of Knoxville 17-1 away and 18-0 at home. After being rained out for our first matchup against BMS, we got a decisive victory at home against them to continue our undefeated streak. Then, we headed to Sewanee to play McCallie, whom we lost to last year in the fall. After a couple of early and close matchups, we came away with a 16-5 victory. With many talented players returning, there is much to look forward to in the spring season.

### MBA Fall Tennis 2014





# BIG RED SPORTS



## Microbe XC: The Squad

By Graham Ragsdale and  
Zach Garfinkel

The cross country team ran very well this season, placing fourth in the HVAC AA championship, one point behind third place. The race was run at Harlinsdale Farm

against six other teams. The team was led by members of "The Squad" such as Graham "Rag City" Ragsdale, who placed ninth in the HVAC with a time of 11:37, Jon "Hamster Rampage" Hyde, who

placed 13th in the HVAC with a time of 11:50, Joel "Ice J.J. Fish" Elasy, who placed 15th in the HVAC with a time of 12:04, Parker "Spiderman" O'Neal, who placed 22nd in the HVAC with a time of 12:21.46, and Zach "Simon" Garfinkel, who placed 24th in the HVAC with a time of 12:21.81. More top runners were William "PD" Petroni, John "The Spice" Curry, Joe "Oswald" Owens, and Harrison "Cookie" Steanson. We thank our great coaches: Coach

Reynolds, Coach Bailey, Coach Dougherty, Coach Paolicchi, and Coach Russell, for helping us train to run the fastest we could. The cross-country team this year enjoyed great success and hopes to continue the success in future years.



*The 2014 Microbe Cross Country Team*



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